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PAGES 2

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SOURCE

1. Organizations in Berlin working for the foundation of the United States of Europe include the Pan-Europa Bund and the Europa-Union. The former claims to be connected with the Pan-European Union founded by Count Richard Coudenhove-Kalergi; its main office is said to be in Namur. Rival societies allege that the Pan-Europa Bund is subsidized by the Soviet Military Administration to the extent of one and a half million marks annually. Branches have been permitted by the Russians in Leipzig, Dresden, Weimar, Schwerin, and other places in the Russian Zone.
2. Some months ago a certain Kasting of Berlin-Pankow became a member of the Pan-Europa Bund. Kasting belongs to the SED; he is a former school-teacher, about fifty-five years old, who, during the last years of the Nazi regime, was general manager of a chain of vacation centers. After a few weeks he informed the executive committee that he was in a position to give the organization some financial assistance, on condition that he be given a post of political influence. Bernhard Kolanzyk, the president, was inclined to accept this proposal, but other leading members objected, and the matter was dropped after Kasting had contributed RM 3,500. Kasting also asked for a complete list of members; this was refused because it was surmised that he meant to give the list to the SED and to the Russians. Thereupon Kasting began negotiating with other similar organizations with a view to setting up a national council of Pan-European societies, and wrote on the subject to the Paris headquarters of the European Union of Federalists. The latter office sent its reply to the Pan-Europa Bund, which then decided to expel Kasting. Nevertheless, he attended the conference of German pan-European organizations at Eutin (Holstein) in July and the international convention at Montreux in August, representing himself as the delegate of the Berlin Pan-Europa Bund, and explaining that he possessed the confidence of the Soviet authorities.
3. About the end of June Kolanzyk tried to get an invitation to Moscow to explain the objectives of his society to Stalin in person. Failing in this, he sent Stalin a letter via Karlshorst containing assurances of friendship for Russia and declaring that he would oppose any attempt to form a western bloc hostile to the Soviet Union. He said he advocated a union of all west and east European states.

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4. In October the Berliner Zeitung published a story alleging that Kolanczyk had been removed as president of the Pan-Europa Bund and replaced by Prof. Kurt Landsberg, the Berlin CDU leader. This story appears to be completely false; leading members suspect that it was invented by SED people, although they claim that the SED, since the expulsion of Kasting, has retained very little influence in the Pan-Europa Bund.

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5. While the attempt of the SED to penetrate the Pan-Europa Bund was going on, the party studiously avoided any similar attempt on the Europa-Union. Under date of 9 July 1947 the Landesverband Berlin of the SED wrote to its members who were deputies in the city assembly and borough assemblies, urging them to decline the invitation to join the Europa-Union which had been extended to all members of German parliaments and city councils.

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